



GAIL FARBER, Director

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

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IN REPLY PLEASE

REFER TO FILE WMD-0

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Gail Farber
Director of Public Works

UNINCORPORATED COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES QUARTERLY STORMWATER COMPLIANCE REPORT – OCTOBER 2013

In accordance with your Board's request at the March 12, 2013, Public Hearing, below you will find the quarterly report on (1) the status of the California Regional Water Quality Control Board's implementation and enforcement of the Los Angeles County Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit (MS4 Permit) and (2) the status of stormwater compliance in the unincorporated areas, including key projects, budget expenditures, and budget forecasting.

Regional Board's Implementation and Enforcement of the MS4 Permit

Education and Outreach

The new MS4 Permit became effective on December 28, 2012. There are 86 permittees associated with the new permit, which include the County of Los Angeles, the Los Angeles County Flood Control District, and 84 cities (excluding the Cities of Avalon, Lancaster, Long Beach, and Palmdale). Although the Regional Board conducted a significant number of meetings, workshops, and information sessions in the last reporting period, it has not held any education/outreach events over the last three months. The Regional Board has announced that it will be conducting a workshop for permittees in November to discuss the Low-Impact Development and Green Street provisions in the permit.

Enforcement

To date, the Regional Board has taken no enforcement actions related to the newly adopted 2012 MS4 Permit.

Stormwater Compliance in Unincorporated Areas

Status of Key Projects/Programs

Collaborative Watershed Planning

As directed by your Board in June 2013, the County submitted Letters of Intent to the Regional Board notifying it of the County's intent to collaborate in 12 of the 18 watershed groups that were formed to develop Coordinated Integrated Monitoring Programs, Enhanced Watershed Management Programs, and Watershed Management Programs. Sixty-nine cities are also participating in these 12 groups.

The watershed groups are currently in various stages of development of the collaborative plans, which are due to the Regional Board by the dates shown below:

- Coordinated Integrated Monitoring Programs – June 28, 2014
- Watershed Management Programs – June 28, 2014
- Enhanced Watershed Management Programs – June 28, 2015

In accordance with the permit, the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) has been meeting since July 24, 2013. The TAC was established to ensure a transparent planning process and provide an opportunity for meaningful stakeholder input throughout the development of the collaborative watershed-based planning documents (Coordinated Integrated Monitoring Programs, Enhanced Watershed Management Programs, and Watershed Management Programs). The TAC's primary focus has been establishing guidelines for all permittees to follow in ensuring that all projects and programs proposed in the planning documents under development by the watershed groups meet the established water quality objectives in the permit. City and County staff, representative nongovernmental organizations, staff from the Regional Board, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency are all participating members of the TAC.

Projects with Significant Water Quality Benefit

As part of the notifications of intent that were submitted in June 2013, the County committed to the completion of three projects that would benefit water quality:

- Avocado Heights Multiuse Trail Project – This project proposes to construct multiuse trails to provide a safer route for equestrian, bicycle, and pedestrian users in the unincorporated area of Avocado Heights. Approximately 2,300 feet

of the multiuse trail will be constructed with decomposed granite, and an infiltration swale will be constructed immediately adjacent to San Jose Creek to infiltrate runoff from the trail.

- Marina del Rey Parking Lots 5 and 7 Stormwater Best Management Practices Project – The project proposes to treat stormwater runoff from the County Marina del Rey Parking Lots 5 and 7 using water quality enhancement Best Management Practices such as bioswales and bioretention.
- Green Street and Brandon Street Road Improvement Project – This project proposes to reconstruct about half a mile of roadway on two streets in the unincorporated area of East Pasadena. The project will recharge groundwater through permeable pavers, bioretention planters, sediment filtration catch basins, and an underground infiltration basin and prevent pollutants from entering the Los Angeles River.

All projects are on schedule for completion before the permit-mandated date of June 2015.

Low-Impact Development Ordinance

As a condition of pursuing a collaborative watershed planning compliance alternative, the County is required to update its existing Low-Impact Development Ordinance, previously adopted by your Board in November 2008, to conform to the new MS4 Permit requirements. Public Works has been working with County Counsel on this requirement and is scheduled to bring the new Low-Impact Development Ordinance to your Board for consideration in November 2013.

Green Streets Policy

Another condition of the current permit is the development of a Green Streets Policy. Public Works is in the process of developing this policy, which is scheduled for completion in December 2013.

Budget Expenditures and Forecast

The Fiscal Year 2013-14 Adopted Budget for the Unincorporated County Stormwater and Urban Runoff Quality Program is \$16 million, which includes \$5.2 million for staffing; \$4.8 million for contracts, consultant work, and outside labor; and \$6 million for capital projects. An additional \$3.5 million was approved in the Supplemental Budget process due to modified project scopes of work and the increased participation with

other permittees in collaborative watershed-based compliance planning efforts. With regard to staffing, the budget includes the establishment of 25 full-time positions within Public Works. These staff members will provide oversight of the Unincorporated County Areas Stormwater Program. They will be responsible for assisting in permit administration and development of new regulations, implementation of Total Maximum Daily Loads and development of management plans, water quality monitoring, and design, construction, and maintenance of local and regional projects. To date, Public Works has filled 20 of the 25 positions.

Stakeholder Outreach and Coordination

Over the last three months, Public Works has continued working extensively with other permittees and stakeholders to initiate compliance efforts and establish watershed groups for consistency in the region. Attached you will find a listing of the watershed groups established to date along with the cities who have agreed to coordinate their compliance efforts.

Some of the stakeholder outreach and coordination activities performed by Public Works over the last quarter include:

- Attended meetings with the 12 watershed groups to prepare plans for Coordinated Integrated Monitoring Programs, Enhanced Watershed Management Programs, and Watershed Management Programs
- Hosted meetings with representatives from all of the collaborative groups
- Presented monthly updates to the Regional Board members on the status of the watershed groups and the progress of permit implementation

Outreach and coordination efforts are anticipated to be very important throughout the life of the permit. In an effort to continue engaging stakeholders and members of the general public in providing meaningful input for the many projects and programs that will be developed as part of permit compliance, Public Works is currently interviewing County Management Fellows to assist in outreach efforts.

ARG:sw

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Attach.

cc: Chief Executive Office (Rita Robinson)
Executive Office

Los Angeles County Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit
Watershed Groups

Group Name		Cities/Permittees Involved	SD
1	Upper Santa Clara River Watershed	Santa Clarita, County, LACFCD	5
2	Upper Los Angeles River Watershed Group	Alhambra, Burbank, Calabasas, Glendale, Hidden Hills, La Canada Flintridge, Los Angeles, Montebello, Monterey Park, Pasadena, Rosemead, San Gabriel, San Marino, South Pasadena, Temple City, County, LACFCD	1,2,3,5
3	Los Angeles River Upper Reach 2 Sub Watershed	Bell, Bell Gardens, Commerce, Cudahy, Maywood, Huntington Park, Vernon, LACFCD	1
4	Lower Los Angeles River Watershed	Downey, Long Beach, Lynwood, Paramount, Pico Rivera, Signal Hill, South Gate, LACFCD	1,2,4
5	Rio Hondo/San Gabriel River Water Quality Group	Arcadia, Azusa, Bradbury, Duarte, Monrovia, Sierra Madre, County, LACFCD	1,5
6	Upper San Gabriel River	Baldwin Park, Covina, Glendora, Industry, La Puente, County, LACFCD	1,4,5
7	East San Gabriel Valley Watershed Management Area	Claremont, La Verne, Pomona, San Dimas	1,5
8	Lower San Gabriel River	Artesia, Bellflower, Cerritos, Diamond Bar, Downey, Hawaiian Gardens, La Mirada, Lakewood, Long Beach, Norwalk, Pico Rivera, Santa Fe Springs, Whittier, LACFCD	4
9	Los Cerritos Channel Watershed Group	Bellflower, Cerritos, Downey, Lakewood, Long Beach, Paramount, Signal Hill, LACFCD	4
10	Malibu Creek Watershed Group	Agoura Hills, Calabasas, Hidden Hills, Westlake Village, County, LACFCD	3
11	Marina del Rey	Culver City, Los Angeles, County, LACFCD	2,3,4
12	North Santa Monica Bay Coastal Watersheds	Malibu, County, LACFCD	3
13	Santa Monica Bay Jurisdictions 2 & 3	El Segundo, Los Angeles, Santa Monica, County, LACFCD	3,4
14	Beach Cities Watershed Management Group	Hermosa Beach, Manhattan Beach, Redondo Beach, Torrance, LACFCD	4
15	Peninsula EWMP Agencies	Palos Verdes Estates, Rancho Palos Verdes, Rolling Hills Estates, County, LACFCD	4
16	Ballona Creek	Beverly Hills, Culver City, Inglewood, Los Angeles, Santa Monica, West Hollywood, County, LACFCD	2,3,4
17	Dominguez Channel Watershed Management Area Group	El Segundo, Hawthorne, Inglewood, Los Angeles, County, LACFCD	2,4
18	Alamitos Bay/Los Cerritos Channel Group	County, LACFCD	4